Neglect of Ghalib Haveli

1592. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the famous poet and scholar Ghalib's haveli, tomb and Zauk's tomb are in a state of neglect and indifference of people and authorities;

(b) whether Government is aware that railing surrounding the tomb of Ghalib are being used for drying clothes;

(c) if so, the details of action taken by the Government to restore the sanctity of these places; and

(d) what Government has done to publicize these places so that tourists are able to visit these places of national importance?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Ghalib's tomb at Nizamuddin and Zauk's tomb at Nabi Karim Paharganj, New Delhi, are protected monuments and are in a good state of preservation. Ghalib's haveli is not a centrally protected monument.

(b) to (c) Due to the location of the monument in a congested area, such usage by local people cannot be ruled out. However, local staff has instructions to be vigilant and prevent such occurrences.

(d) Public awareness programmes are conducted from time to time to sensitize the people on heritage issues. Information about the centrally protected monuments is also available on the website of the ASI. The Government has set up a National Mission on Monuments and Antiquities with heritage awareness as part of its mandate.

Effect of slowdown in American economy on Indian economy

†1593. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has carried out any estimate of adverse effects of slowdown in American economy on the Indian economy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL) : (a) and (b) The Government monitors and evaluates, from time to time, the effect of global economic developments on the Indian economy in formulating its economic policies. While exact effects of the slowdown of the American economy are difficult to quantify because of the complexity of the crisis and as the developments in the American economy are still unfolding, it is expected that there may be some moderation in India's capital flows and in the growth of exports. The Government has already announced a package of measures to address these concerns.

Indian Overseas Bank

1594. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Overseas Bank has issued any instruction to deduct Rs.10/- from each depositor without any reasons particularly in Sector-12, R..K. Puram, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that after the computerization of said Bank, the Bank is not entering passbook from 1st January, 2008 onwards and also direct the depositor to submit again opening account form;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard; and

(e) by when all the depositors will be getting new passbook without submitting any opening form?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL) : (a) and (b) Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) has designed a product for providing personal accident cover of Rs.I lakh for all individuals of active Savings Bank/Current Deposit (SB/CD) account holders. The bank has tied up with United Insurance Company Ltd. for the purpose and scheme has been implemented all over India in all the branches-of the bank as value addition to all SB/CD account holders for a nominal premium of Rs. 10 per annum. The bank had issued a circular to all the branches to display the scheme details on the branch notice board for the knowledge of the customers. The details are also made available in bank's *website www.job.in*. This product was well received by the public. So far, the bank has received 108 claims of which 40 claims have been settled by United India' Insurance Co. Ltd. However, strict instructions were issued to branches to refund the premium of Rs.10/-, if any customer was unwilling or objected to the debit.

(c) to (e) The Bank has reported that the branch has not requested customers to submit fresh account opening form. However, on the basis of a directive from Reserve Bank of India, the bank has been requesting all those existing customers who have earlier not submitted duly filled Know Your Customer (KYC) form to do so. The bank has also informed that the branch has been updating the pass books of customers regularly. In the event of the printer being under repair, pass books are being updated immediately after the printer is set right. Further as and when the pages in the existing pass book are exhausted, customers are immediately given a new pass book.

Withdrawal from employees pension scheme

1595. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to tighten norms for withdrawal from Employees Pension Scheme;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there has been resentment from employees union and other bodies against this move; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL) : (a) to (d) There is no such proposal under consideration to tighten the norms for withdrawal from Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995. However, in order to address the increasing actuarial deficit in